

ANCHOR LINE

Flotilla 87
USCG Auxiliary
Englewood, Fla.



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www.CoastGuardEnglewood.com



Lee Waters, FC presents Harry Steele with his retirement certificate celebrating
37 years with the Coast Guard Auxiliary

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**2012 FLOTILLA 87 OFFICERS
DIVISION 8 DISTRICT 7**



**Flotilla Commander
Flotilla Vice Cmdr.**

Member Training
Public Education
Vessel Examination
Operations
Personnel Services
Public Affairs
Publications
Secretary/Records
Finance
Communications
Materials
Information Svc
RBS Visitation
Communication Svc
Marine Safety
Monofilament Recovery
Imm. Past Fl. Cmdr.
Lay Leader
Fellowship
Proctor
Flotilla Webmaster

**FC
VFC**
FSO-MT
FSO-PE
FSO-VE
FSO-OP
FSO-HR
FSO-PA
FSO-PB
FSO-SR
FSO-FN
FSO-CM
FSO-MA
FSO-IS
FSO-PV
FSO-CS
FSO-MS
IPFC

N. Lee Waters

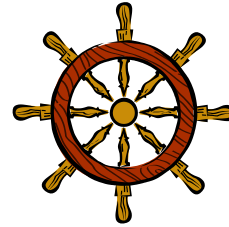
Graham Leadbetter
Anton (Tony) Durner
N. Lee Waters
Gerald L. Meckenberg
Wilbur R. Gray
Sandy Bilsky
David C. Nielsen
Judith A. Abbott
Judith A. Abbott
Sandra L. Hahn
Gerald L. Meckenberg
Joseph Scott Mayer
Robert M. Waters
George J. Bazinet
Jack W. Rienks
Dane F. Hahn
Arthur J. "Skip" Wilson
Rodney D. Dimon
Judith A. Abbott
Eugene Kick
Ruth A. White
Jack W. Rienks

MAY EVENTS

- 1.....Flotilla Staff Officers' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm
- 8.....Flotilla Members' Meeting, Lemon Bay Park 7 pm

FROM THE HELM:

N. Lee Waters, Commander



Greeting Friends,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone healthy and happy. With the hurricane season just around the corner, now is the time to get ourselves prepared for it. I hope everyone has gone through their hurricane supplies to make sure batteries are fresh, food and water supplies are acquired, and are starting to think about what preparations are needed for our boats. Graham has worked hard on preparing our hurricane calling tree and making sure it is up to date. If you have not checked the list for your personal information, please take time to look over it and make sure the information is up to date. There will be a dry run of the calling tree this month so be prepared to hear from us! Again I remind each of you that if you plan on being out of town FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME, please let Gabby, Graham or I know. We must account for all out members if there is an emergency and I'm sure you don't want to make our jobs any harder than they have to be.

This month will bring National Safe Boating Week May 19th - 25, the annual event that promotes educating the general public on boating safely and protecting ourselves with the proper life jackets. One of the activities we have planned is a safety booth at Royal Palm Marina on May 19th from 1200-1600 and I'll be calling people to man the booth. If you have some time to give the flotilla, please give me a call. We are also hoping to have our gold side representation on the local radio station promoting NSBW and the role of women in the Coast Guard. There may be a few more activities as your board works together to create an eventful National Safe Boating Week.

I hope to see many of you at our May meeting. We have lots of awards to hand out to the membership; we did well at the April division meeting. We also have many new ideas to discuss to make our flotilla even better. Hope to see you there and until next month...

BRAVO ZULU!



Picnic Photos



Although it was a small turnout everyone enjoyed the fellowship and the food too thanks to "Chef" Gabby below and his assistant Grace (Mrs. Gabby)



Picnic photos by Skip Wilson

Congratulations to Dane and Sandra Hahn



Photo provided by Graham Leadbetter

Dane and Sandra received from Paulette Parent, DCDR 8 the Coast Guard Auxiliary Achievement Medal for Superior Performance of Duty while serving at the New Orleans Unified Area Command's Joint Information Center for the Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit DEEPWATER HORIZON Spill of National Significance from 26 July to 24 August 2010.

W. R. "Gabby" Gray, FSO-OP



Three patrols were completed for the month of April.

A reminder; all of those who need their 3rd year requals please check with me or Anton Durner, FSO-MT so we can make arrangements to get a QE in for your test.

I would like to remind all coxswains not to forget we have new members on board, don't forget to take them along on patrols with you. Coxswains you know you can take more than 2 crewmembers out with you, don't let them get stale.

Attention all members :

Coxswains, we are going to be a little short during the summer months as some of our coxswains might be going out of town, so you might be called upon to take an extra patrol if you could.

All Operational members, **Please** don't forget to let me or Lee know if you are going out of town for any length of time.

Attention all, just a reminder; **HURRICANE** season starts June 1st. Keep your facilities fueled and ready.

There are some markers in Stump Pass. Still use caution when entering or exiting the Pass.

Thanks for all of your help and the great work.

"Gabby"



N. Lee Waters, FSO-PE

As our snowbird friends leave for the north, the locals will start flocking to our waterways so now is the time to promote our safe boating classes. The current ABS class ended on April 28th. Our class ran well and we now have 7 new safe boaters. Our next endeavor will be an ABS class to be held on June 5, 6 & 7 from 0900-1200. Class assignments for the June class will be handed out soon and instructors will start preparing lesson plans. We need the membership to recruit students because from our class surveys we have found that a large percentage of our participants were word of mouth referrals or used our web site (CoastGuardEnglewood.com). Keep up the good work. .

We are always looking for "Blue Shirts" to help out with our classes. You don't have to be an instructor to come to one of our classes; you just have to be willing to answer questions about boating and the Auxiliary. One of the best places to recruit new members for the Auxiliary is from our courses. Remember, a friendly face and a helpful manner is a good way to get people involved with our Flotilla.

Don't forget to remind your friends and neighbors to wear their life jackets when they are boating because they only work if you wear them. One of the reasons that the two men lost their lives in Boca Grande, is the fact that neither man was wearing a life jacket.

Dave Nielsen, FSO-PA



Rules of the Road

In the water 30 hours

A few weeks ago there was another tragic boating accident where two friends and former marines from the Houston, Texas area went fishing. From the accounts I have read they were fishing near an oil/gas rig about 50 miles off shore in the Gulf of Mexico. During the trip their boat started taking on water and sank. One fisherman survived 30 hours in the water, the other did not.

The boaters did what they could to stop their boat from taking on water without success. When they realized they were in serious trouble they tried to call 9-1-1 but there was no cell phone signal. They also made a May Day call over CH-16 on the VHF marine radio but got no response. Already wearing life jackets, when the bow went up it threw both men into the water. They grabbed a few more life jackets and found a half full bottle of diet cola floating nearby.

When one of the fishermen became unresponsive from being in the cold water over night, the other swam to a nearby manned oil/gas rig and was able to make contact with the Coast Guard. The friend he left behind was found later in the day by other fishermen.

The lesson here once again is if you are going boating or anywhere communications may be limited or out of range, prepare yourself for the trip. Besides all the required equipment such as life jackets, flares and whistles, an electronic position indicating radio beacon (EPIRB) on board all vessels is highly recommended to expedite the rescue process. In this case an EPIRB or PEPIRB (that is for personal EPIRB) would have signaled their distress via satellite service.

In the U.S., users are required by law to directly register their EPIRB in the 406 MHz Beacon Registration Database at: <http://www.beaconregistration.noaa.gov/> or by calling 1-888-212-SAVE. Non U.S. users can register their beacon in their country's national beacon registration database or, if no national database is available, in the International Beacon Registration Database at <https://www.406registration.com/>.

The registration information is used to assist the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Air Force and other search and rescue agencies in locating and quickly responding to you, your vessel, or aircraft in the event of beacon activation. Failure to register your EPIRB may delay a rescue response. There is no charge for beacon registration and is a service provided by the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Any changes or updates to your registration information can be done via the internet, fax, e-mail or postal service mail. Failure to register, re-register (as required every two years), or to notify NOAA of any changes to the status of your 406 MHz beacon could result in penalties and/or fines being issued under Federal Law.

For more information about boating safety visit the U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Division website at: www.uscgboating.org/

Be safe out there and I'll see you on the water.

Dave Nielsen is a safe boating instructor and vessel examiner for the Coast Guard Auxiliary, Englewood Flotilla www.coastguardenglewood.com and the Peace River Sail & Power Squadron, Punta Gorda www.puntagorda-boating.org. You may contact him at dc.nielsen@hotmail.com.

Editor's Note:

Dave is a regular contributor to the SUN newspaper's Water Line boating and fishing magazine promoting the USCG and CG AUXILIARY'S safe boating message.